

Shape Shifter Lesson

In *The Greedy Triangle*, the Triangle character is dissatisfied with its shape and decides, through the help of the Shapeshifter, to take on some new identities. By continuing to add one more side to itself, it changes from a triangle, to a quadrilateral, to a pentagon, and more. I wanted to read the book aloud to my second graders during a geometry class, but I wasn't sure they would understand the concept of the Triangle adding "another side."

The lesson:

- 1- Read the story aloud for enjoyment.
- 2- Create the shape shifter square using the attached directions. This is done with a 5 X 5 sheet of construction paper.
- 3- Let students explore all the shapes they can create using the shape shifter.
- 4- Remind students that they can only fold on the original creases.
- 5- Create anchor charts that students will draw the shape they created on using their shape shifter. (I.e anchor charts that say 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10...)
- 6- Discuss with students how they created these shapes and what they would call these shapes.

What is the math in this lesson?

- Reasoning with shape attributes
- Drawing shapes
- Identifying lines in shapes
- Identifying angles
- Classifying shapes by properties
- Distinguish between two-dimensional shape characteristics

Folding the Square

